

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 VO-01 SCA-01 CU-02 NSC-05 NSCE-00

INR-05 L-01 CIAE-00 IO-03 SP-02 /041 R

DRAFTED BY EA/K - MR O'DONOHUE: CHG

APPROVED BY EA/K - MR O'DONOHUE

SCA/VO - MR KENT (DRAFT)

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P 110015Z FEB 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 030377

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CIVS, PFOR, KS, KN

SUBJECT: VISAS FOR NORTH KOREANS

REF: (A) SEOUL 731; (B) STATE 25760; (C) STATE 21472;
(D) STATE 17996

1. KOREA COUNTRY DIRECTOR MET WITH KOREAN POLITICAL
COUNSELOR KIM TAE ZHEE TODAY ON NORTH KOREAN VISA QUESTION.
HE INFORMED KIM THAT WE HAD GIVEN ROKG VIEWS SERIOUS CON-
SIDERATION BUT, AS EARLIER EXPLAINED, DEPARTMENT BELIEVES
WE HAVE NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO AUTHORIZE VISAS TO QUALIFIED
PARTICIPANTS IN THE INTERNATIONAL EVENTS DESCRIBED REF-
TELS.

2. IN EXPLAINING OUR VIEWS, COUNTRY DIRECTOR AGAIN POINTED
OUT THAT OUR DECISION DID NOT INVOLVE ANY CHANGE IN OUR
GENERAL VISA POLICY WITH REGARD TO NORTH KOREA. COUNTRY
DIRECTOR STRESSED OUR DECISION IS SOLELY BASED ON MAIN-
TAINING THE SUITABILITY OF THE U.S. AS THE SITE FOR THESE
MAJOR INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AND SPORTING MEETS. HE
AGAIN NOTED THAT VISAS FOR NORTH KOREANS WHO SHOULD APPLY
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TO ATTEND THESE FOUR MAJOR INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES WILL

ONLY BE ISSUED ON A SELECTIVE BASIS AND LIMITED TO
LEGITIMATE PARTICIPANTS. IT WAS ALSO EXPLAINED THAT ANY
VISAS ISSUED WOULD BE RESTRICTED TO AUTHORIZE ONLY TRAVEL
TO THE CITY WHERE THE EVENT WAS BEING HELD FOR THE DURA-

TION OF THE CONFERENCE OR SPORTS EVENT.

3. KIM EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT AND SAID HE WOULD REPORT
OUR VIEWS TO HIS GOVERNMENT. KIM SAID THAT HE THOUGHT
ROKG WOULD WISH TO EXPRESS ITS REGRET OVER OUR DECISION.

INGERSOLL

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